



## Barbara Jean Bates

August 16, 1950 - February 22, 2016

Barbara Jean (Hillier) Bates, aged 65 of Custer, passed away peacefully at her home early Monday morning, February 22, 2016 surrounded by her family. Barbara was born on August 16, 1950 in Ludington, the daughter of Virgil Hillier and Joyce Curran and was later adopted by her paternal grandparents Ada and Perry Hillier. She grew up in the Ludington area and attended school at both Ludington and Scottville, graduating from Mason County Central High School.

Barbara worked for many years at Jackie's Restaurant in Custer, and also worked as a Resident Caregiver for Sunrise AFC, Rainbow Manor, GranCare AFC, and at Willowbrook AFC. She enjoyed spending time sewing, reading, working crossword books, looking for bargains while thrift sale shopping, and tending to her plants and roses all over her yard. Barb also received great joy from her many birds and dogs.

Barbara will be remembered by her children Scott (Nan) Fenner of Fountain, Shana (Jeff) Fenner-Sterling of Ludington, and Sherry (Chad) Fenner-Lockhart of Walhalla, her 10 grandchildren Lisa (Isaiah) Fenner-Gardenhire, Bryan (Ashley) Fenner, Kristine (Nate) O'Brien, Samantha (Nick) Genter, Steven (Brittany) Watters Jr., Cody Abbe, Andrew (Amy) Noonan, Timothy (Kera) Noonan, Courtney and Telizia Lockhart, her 13 great-grandchildren Nathaniel, Josiah, Jordyn, Alanah, Brookelynn, Chase, Draven, Chloe,

Madelyn, Ivy, Caitlyn, Elektra, and Mikel. She was preceded in death by her parents, her grandson Jesse Abbe, her granddaughter Melissa Watters, and her great-granddaughter Paisley Noonan who will all be there to welcome her to the kingdom of God.

On November 25, 1989, Barbara married Lee Allen Bates Jr. and he survives with his children Allen Bates, Christopher (Melissa) Kalisch, Ryan Bates, and Tara Bates.

A Memorial Service will be held for Barbara at 2:00 pm on Saturday, February 27 at the Sugar Ridge Church of the Brethren, 2012 E. Wilson Road, Custer. Friends may meet with her family for a time of visitation beginning at 1:00 pm until time of services at the church. A luncheon will follow and graveside services will be held for Barbara at Riverside Cemetery in Custer in the spring.

# Cemetery Details

## Riverside Cemetery

800 South Custer Road  
Custer, MI 49405

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 27. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Sugar Ridge Church of the Brethren  
2012 East Wilson Road  
Custer, MI 49405

## Memorial Service

FEB 27. 2:00 PM (ET)

Sugar Ridge Church of the Brethren  
2012 East Wilson Road  
Custer, MI 49405

# Tribute Wall

SL

“ *Sherry (fenner) Lockhart lit a candle in memory of Barbara Jean Bates*



---

**Sherry (fenner) Lockhart** - February 26, 2016 at 05:43 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Barbara Jean Bates.*



---

February 24, 2016 at 09:03 PM

BA

“ *Lee and family,  
I am sorry to read of your loss. Barbara was a nice person.  
I was happy for the both of you when I learned (many years ago)  
that the two of you had found each other.  
My Prayers are with you.  
Sincerely, Barbara Brooks-Herlein*

---

**Barbara** - February 23, 2016 at 10:38 PM

SR

“ Scott, Shana, and Sherry, So sorry to hear of the passing of your Mom. I remember spending time with your family when we were young, she always treated us very kindly. Know she is in a better place and will always be with you and watching down on you.

*Sherry (Johnson) Revolt*

---

**Sherry Revolt** - February 23, 2016 at 05:07 PM



“ mark miller and my self betty miller - bauer would like to let you know how sorry we are to hear that barb has passed prayers and thoughts are with all of you

---

**Betty Bauer** - February 23, 2016 at 03:55 PM